



A Proclamation concerning the making of Starch.



Which happen by the connecting of great quantities of Wheat, flower, Peale, other things fit for the foode of man, into the making of Starch, and by the making of Starch in places but and inconvenient, whereby but louing Subjects inhabiting neere but o, or palling by these places: we out of Dur Princely care to have a due reformation of these inconveniences, wherein the Common wealth hath so great an interest, have heretefore by Dur severall Proclamations commanded such directions to be observed, as by mature, and deliberate consideration were conceived, might best tend to these ends: And yet through wishinesse of divers of

the Starchmakers, wee haue hitherto failed of Dur hopes and belires, and the milchiefes haue the rather increased through Dur lenity. Row having lately received an humble petition from divers of the Starch-makers themfelues, whereby they have been humble fuiters bnto Us, that if wee would bouchfafe by Dur Letters Patents, to incorporate them into a 28 ody politique, to have a perpetuall fuccession, and thereby to enable them, by the helpe of good Lawes and Dedinances, to gos uerne the members of their owne Bodie, that they would not onely submit themselnes, but would allo be answerable buto Us, for such a reformation to follow, as thould ease be from further come plaints: We conceiving this to be the most probable meanes for reformation, or to leave them with out excuse, which will not bee reformed, have been graciously pleased to incorporate the Starchmakers, and to give them fuch power for their government, as they did reasonably defire. And the Starch-makers on their parts, have bndertaken buto Us, that they, noz any member of their body. will at any time hereafter, make any Starth of Wheate, Flower, Weale, or other thing probibe ted, but will make the same of Pollard, and Branne onely, and sell the same at and for reasonable pices: And that they will not let by, or maintaine any Starch-house, or viethe making of any Starch in any places, which by the bufit lituation thereof, or by the ill ordering thereof, may bee an anopance to others; and that if all others might be prohibited to make Starch to put to fale, who Chould not fubmit themfelues to become members of their body, and confequently bee subtect to their government: That then they would with the ottermost of their endeauours, discover all such offen: ders, and draw them into a way to bee proceeded against for their contempts according to Justice, in fuch fort as we thould direct. we therefore calling to mind, that the prices of Corne are now growne to much higher rates, then in thefe later and theaper preces the fame were at, and perceiving that of late many Tradesmen out of a greedy belire of gaine, though with the hurt of the Common Wealth, haue taken bpon them to be Starch-makers and left their former Trades and Dccupatios, vaue resolued to have an effectuall resozmation of the abuses asozclayd, and constantly to put Our directions for that purpose into execution: And to the end that what the Starch makers have budere taken on their parts to performe, may bee indeed really performed, were have conducted and appoint ted a Surveyoz, who wall bee Dur (wozne officer, and fervant to that purpofe, to overfee the fame in enery part. Row to the end that all Dur louing Subiects may take knowledge of Dur Royall pleasure herein, wee doe by this Dur present Proclamation Graitly charge and command, that no perfon of perfons whatfoeuer, other then fuch as are, of thall bee members of the faid Company of Starchmakers, Chall prefume to attempt, or goe about, to make any Starch at all.

Shat no perfon whatforeer, thinkly was make any Search, Coll make the fame of podeat Kionber, Wealt, or other thing then Pollard, and Nyanne onely. That no person ubhactoener, that fee pp, maintaine, or bie any Deacth house, or any bestell so th

enghing of Bearch, in any place, which for the hinarion thereof, ember in respect of the veryoness thereofto any with at Taibur, or other Dibellings, or in regard of the neutroes to any consumpting

way, roade, or ordinary passage of people, is, or that appeare to be norseen any other. That no Scorer, Chapman, or other person who viethed buy Exarch colessance, that buy, t ter. fell, or atherival harest, or he trady solared their their thail know a trade between ape by air perform, who is not a trade to the alterior, who is not a trade to the area of the area. Stately enables that of ready to felt the fame, at any for fact that can be price as the law & one my hancin their Andenture under their commion weene buderianen, and agrees to litt the fame.

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Imprinted at London by Fonham Morton and John Hill, Printers to the King mole Excellent Maiellie, M. D.C. X.C.L.

That no person whatsoever, which shall make any Starch, shall make the same of wheates

Flower, Deale, oz other thing then Pollard, and Branne onely.

That no person what some, thall set by, maintaine, or ble any Starch house, or any bestell for the making of Starch, in any place, which for the situation thereof, either in respect of the neerenesse thereof to any City or Towns, or other dwellings, or in regard of the neereness to any common high way, roade, or ordinary passage of people, is, or shall appears to be noy some to any other.

That no Grocer, Chapman, or other person who bleth to buy Starch to sell againe, thall buy, bteter, sell, or otherwise barter, or bent any Starch, which they thall know to have beene made by any person, who is not aknowen member of the said Company of Starch-makers, so as alwayes the Starch-makers thall be ready to sell the same, at and for such reasonable prices, as the said Company have by their Indenture buder their common Seale budertaken, and agreed to sell the same.

That no perlon prefume to fell any Starch as a Duckfler, or Dawker, from Doore to Doore, in pri-

uate, og fecret, og other wife then in their owne proper and open Shops, og warehoufes.

And our will and pleasure is. That if any person shall offend hereafter in any of the premistes, or in aining appear affiliance to any the faid offenders, directly, or indirectly, that our Commissioners which wee hereafter thall to that purpole authorize, for the readie hearing, and dispatch of all complaints touching the premilles. Hall beare and examine all the complaints which hall be made as gainst any such offenders, and shall inflict such punishment bpon such offenders, by impailonment, oz otherwife, as Our laid Commissioners in their wisedomes thall thinke fit, having respect buto the qualitie of the offences. And if Dur fayd Commiffioners, Chall in their good discretions finde any, whose offence, or unsoemeanour deserveth to be made more exemplary, our pleasure and command is. That fuch offenders wall undergoe the centure, and feveritie of Our Court of Starre-chamber, for the contempt of our Prerogative Royall, in a matter of fuch confequence, touching the good and benefit of Dur people. And to the end our Pleafure and Command herein, may be the better effected, weedoe hereby fraitly charge and command, all and fingular Juffices of Peace, Payors, She riffes, Bayliffes, Constables, headboroughs, and all other our officers, and Subjects what somer, When foeuer any complaints thall be brought buto them, or any of them, of or for any offence or mile demeanour committed within the limits of their feuerall Jurifoictions, at all times, and from time to time, to be ayding and allifting to fuch as thall at any time be imployed, in or about the execution of this our Ordinance, and carefully and diligently to doe their bitermost endeanour, that this our Royall Command herein lignified and expressed, be in all points duely perfourmed; And that they boe not fuffer any person of persons whatsoever, within any of their Precincts, from and after the publication of this Our Proclamation, to make or cause to be made, directly or indirectly, any Starch in any other maner, og in any other place og places, within this our Realme of England, Dominion of Wales, 02 Bott 02 Towne of Barwicke, then by fuch perfons, and in fuch maner, and in fuch places, as are herein directed and intended; but that they ble their bittermost powers and endeauours, by all lawfull meanes, to hinder and suppresse the same. And our further will and Commandis, That not onely our faid Commissioners, which are or thall be appointed by Us to this purpose, but also all other our Julices of Peace, Mayors, Sheriffes, Bayliffes, and other our chiefe officers, in all the parts of Dur Realme of England, and Dominion afozelaid, and Pozt and Towne of Barwicke, When the nature and quality of the offence and contempt thall appeare, to beferne a moze exemplary punishment as afozelaid, Chall cause all and euery the offenders against any Branch, Article, of part of this our Royall Proclamation, to be bound with Sureties in good Bonds to our ble , for their appearance befoze Us and our Printe Counfell, in our Court of Starre-thamber, there to aniwere their contempts; And if they, ozany of them, thall refule to enter into fuch Bonds, then to commit every person so offending buto passon, there to remaine butill further order by Us, and our Counfell, thall be taken for their inlargement and releafe.

Giuen at Our Manour of Theobalds, this sixteenth day of May, in the twentieth yeere of Our Reigne of England, France, and Ireland, and of Scotland the flue and fistieth.

God faue the King.

Imprinted at London by Bonham Norton and Iohn Bill, Printers to the Kings most Excellent Maiestie. M.D.C. XXII